

Remarks

In the application, claims 1 through 12 are pending. No claims currently stand allowed.

The Office Action dated October 24, 2003, has been carefully considered. The Office Action rejects claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,298,383 (“Gutman”). Claims 3 through 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious in light of Gutman and U.S. Patent 5,913,025 (“Higley”). Claims 11 and 12 are rejected as obvious in light of Higley, Gutman, and U.S. Patent 6,198,824 (“Shambroom”). Claims 13 through 15 are rejected as obvious in light of Higley and U.S. Patent 5,623,601 (“Vu”). Claim 16 is rejected as obvious in light of Higley, Vu, and U.S. Patent 6,081,900 (“Subramaniam”). Finally, claim 17 is rejected as obvious in light of Higley, Vu, and Gutman.

As required by the Examiner, the Abstract is amended to bring its word count down to 150.

The present application and Gutman both describe proxy authorization schemes. However, the details of these schemes are quite different. Some confusion may arise from the different meanings of the key word “user” in the present application and in Gutman. In the present application, the “user” has rights to access a target service. A “proxy client” wishes to use those rights to access the service. In Gutman, on the other hand, the rights are originally owned by the “domain.” Gutman’s “user” wishes to use those rights to access a target service. Thus, Gutman’s “user” corresponds roughly to the present application’s “proxy client.” For clarity’s sake, the remainder of this discussion uses the terminology of the present application.

With this distinction in terminology in mind, the differences between Gutman and the present invention become clearer. For example, the following elements of claims 1, 6, and 9 are not anticipated by Gutman:

- Claim 1: submitting, *by the proxy client*, a proxy request to the trusted security server requesting access to the target service on behalf of the user;
- Claim 6: receiving a proxy request *from the proxy client* to access a target service on behalf of the user;
- Claim 9: A computer-readable medium as in claim 6, having further computer-executable instructions for performing the step of *sending the data structure to the proxy client* for presenting to the target service for authentication of the proxy client.

In re Application of: Swift et al.
Application No.: 09/490,199

(Emphasis added.) In Gutman, the proxy client (Gutman's "user") does *not* submit a proxy request to the security server. Rather, the target service submits the request. This distinction is one basis for the heightened security awareness of the scheme of the present invention as described, e.g., on page 10, line 22, through page 11, line 26, of the present specification.

Other elements of claim 1 are not anticipated by Gutman. For example, Gutman's proxy authorization simply allows or denies access to the proxy client and cannot allow *limited access* because its registered proxy information does not contain claim 1's "extent of proxy authorization." This element is described in the present specification on page 11, line 20, through page 12, line 22.

Claim 11's security exchange is based on a shared secret key which is not disclosed by Gutman. In particular, the following elements are not anticipated by Gutman:

Claim 11: receiving from the trusted security server *a session key encrypted with a shared secret key shared by the client and the trusted security server* and a ticket for accessing the target service;
decrypting the session key with the shared secret key;

(Emphasis added.) Other examples could be given.

In sum, the cited art simply does not show every element of the currently pending independent claims (1, 6, and 11). Thus, the cited art neither anticipates nor renders obvious these independent claims. As all other currently pending claims depend from these claims, applicants request that the rejections be withdrawn and that all currently pending claims be allowed.

Conclusion

The application is considered in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

In re Application of: Swift et al.
Application No.: 09/490,199

Respectfully submitted,



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